



# ***IDAHO POTATOES***



IDAHO  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE  
P.O. Box 1699  
Boise, ID 83701

1-208-334-1507  
FAX: (208) 334-1114  
[www.nass.usda.gov/id](http://www.nass.usda.gov/id)

Released: December 31, 2001

## **IDAHO RUSSET POTATO SIZE AND GRADE SUMMARY - 2001 CROP**

The statistics in this publication were obtained from the 2001 Potato Objective Yield Survey. The Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service would like to thank all growers who allowed the enumerators to dig samples in their fields. Without the voluntary cooperation of the farmers themselves, obtaining valid and timely agricultural statistics would be much more difficult. Because the samples of potatoes were dug by hand, the size and grade statistics in this document do not reflect harvesting or handling damage.

The survey results showed for the 2001 crop, 38.9 percent of the potatoes were at least ten ounces, equaling the amount that reached that size in 2000. Of the Russet potatoes in the 2001 sample, 81.1 percent met the 2.0 inch or 4 oz. minimum size and grade requirements for U.S. No. 1 potatoes. Processing grade, with a 1.5 inch minimum, accounted for 18.4 percent of the 2001 crop.

### **PROCEDURE**

The 2001 Potato Objective Yield Survey consisted of 274 samples located throughout Idaho in fields selected in an unbiased and random manner. The selection of sample fields was based on all known potato acreage planted in 2001, with each acre having an equal chance of being chosen. As a result, growers with large acreages were more likely to be selected to participate in this survey. Several sample fields with varieties other than Russet were selected, but only the reports with Russet potatoes were used to compile the data in Tables 1 and 2. For each sample field, two plots were systematically located using computer generated random numbers. Each plot consisted of a twenty-foot section of a row. Digging of all samples occurred immediately preceding harvest or when all vines had died and growth of the tubers was no longer possible. Three hills of potatoes from each twenty-foot row section were carefully dug, counted, weighed, and then graded according to U.S.D.A. standards. Potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter were excluded from this procedure. To measure the harvest loss, post-harvest gleanings were taken for every fourth sample. The gleaning area consisted of two 3-by-6-foot plots, located five paces and five row space equivalents beyond the plots where the potato hills were dug. All potatoes and potato pieces, except whole potatoes under 1.5 inches in diameter, were collected, weighed, and graded. Geographic distribution of the 2001 usable sample fields is shown in the following table.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>COUNTIES</u>	<u>NO. OF SAMPLE PLOTS</u>
Southwest	Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington	39
Southcentral	Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls	81
Eastern	Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida & Power	109
Eastern Seed Counties	Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Lemhi & Teton	45
IDAHO TOTAL		274

TABLE 1-- IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE (NET WEIGHT BASIS) AND GRADE -- 2001 CROP <sup>1/</sup>

AREA AND GRADE	1 1/2" 1 5/8"	1 5/8" 1 7/8"	1 7/8" 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
Percentages (%)														
SOUTHCENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	17.3	6.9	7.4	7.1	5.9	6.6	5.8	5.0	3.8	17.2	83.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.6	4.2	2.7	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	4.4	16.4
Other .....	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.6
TOTAL .....	1.6	4.3	2.7	18.4	7.3	7.7	7.6	6.2	7.0	6.1	5.2	4.2	21.7	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	22.2	8.3	7.6	6.3	6.0	4.9	4.4	3.0	3.4	13.9	80.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.7	5.3	3.5	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	4.5	19.4
Other .....	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.6
TOTAL .....	1.7	5.4	3.5	23.3	8.8	8.1	6.7	6.6	5.5	4.8	3.3	3.7	18.6	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	25.5	8.6	7.3	6.6	4.7	5.3	3.2	3.3	1.3	9.9	75.7
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.8	5.6	3.6	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.7	7.6	22.9
Other .....	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.2	1.4
TOTAL .....	1.9	5.8	3.8	27.0	9.0	7.5	6.9	5.1	5.9	3.8	3.6	2.0	17.7	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	20.7	7.7	7.5	6.8	5.8	5.7	4.8	4.0	3.3	14.4	80.7
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.6	4.9	3.2	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	4.9	18.6
Other .....	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.7
TOTAL .....	1.6	5.0	3.3	21.8	8.2	7.9	7.2	6.2	6.2	5.2	4.3	3.7	19.4	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	20.1	9.0	7.7	7.4	6.5	4.5	4.9	3.6	4.1	17.9	85.7
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	0.9	3.2	2.5	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	2.7	13.7
Other .....	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	0.6
TOTAL .....	0.9	3.2	2.5	20.6	9.5	8.5	7.8	7.6	4.9	5.4	3.9	4.6	20.6	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	20.6	7.8	7.5	6.8	5.9	5.6	4.8	4.0	3.4	14.7	81.1
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.6	4.8	3.2	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	4.7	18.4
Other .....	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.5
TOTAL .....	1.6	4.9	3.2	21.7	8.3	7.8	7.3	6.3	6.1	5.2	4.3	3.8	19.5	100.0

1/ Percentages shown adjusted to allow for harvesting loss. 2/ 2" or 4-oz. minimum.

TABLE 2 -- IDAHO RUSSIA POTATOES: SIZE (NET WEIGHT BASIS) AND GRADE -- 2000 CROP <sup>1/</sup>

AREA AND GRADE	1 1/2" 1 5/8"	1 5/8" 1 7/8"	1 7/8" 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
Percentages (%)														
SOUTHCENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	16.7	6.6	6.7	6.2	7.4	6.8	5.4	4.2	4.6	22.4	87.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	0.7	2.8	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	4.4	12.6
Other .....	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.4
TOTAL .....	0.7	2.8	1.9	17.2	6.8	7.0	6.5	7.7	7.0	6.0	4.6	4.9	26.9	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	22.8	7.7	8.4	7.4	5.7	5.7	4.6	2.7	3.1	13.3	81.4
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.6	4.9	3.6	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	3.5	17.2
Other .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.4
TOTAL .....	1.7	5.0	3.7	24.1	8.2	8.9	7.8	6.1	6.2	5.0	2.9	3.5	16.9	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	27.5	10.0	8.3	6.9	4.4	5.2	3.4	2.5	1.1	12.0	81.3
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	2.2	7.2	4.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2	-	1.1	18.2
Other .....	-	0.1	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.5
TOTAL .....	2.2	7.3	4.8	28.2	10.3	8.5	7.5	4.6	5.7	3.8	2.7	1.3	13.1	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	21.6	7.7	7.9	7.0	6.0	6.0	4.7	3.1	3.3	15.7	83.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.4	4.5	3.3	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	3.5	16.0
Other .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	-	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.0
TOTAL .....	1.5	4.6	3.4	22.6	8.0	8.3	7.4	6.4	6.4	5.2	3.3	3.6	19.3	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	12.9	6.4	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.8	4.8	4.1	4.7	26.0	83.9
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	0.9	2.9	2.6	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	4.8	15.3
Other .....	-	-	-	0.1	0.3	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.8
TOTAL .....	0.9	2.9	2.6	13.8	7.1	6.4	6.3	6.9	7.3	5.3	4.5	5.0	31.0	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 <sup>2/</sup> .....	-	-	-	21.0	7.6	7.8	6.9	6.0	6.0	4.7	3.2	3.4	16.4	83.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.) .....	1.4	4.4	3.2	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	3.6	16.0
Other .....	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.0
TOTAL .....	1.4	4.5	3.3	22.0	8.0	8.2	7.3	6.4	6.4	5.2	3.5	3.7	20.1	100.0

1/ Percentages shown adjusted to allow for harvesting loss. 2/ 2" or 4-oz. minimum.

**TABLE 3 - ALL POTATOES: AVERAGE NUMBER OF TUBERS PER HILL & HILLS PER ACRE  
2000 & 2001 CROPS**

AREA	NUMBER OF SAMPLES		AVERAGE NUMBER OF TUBERS PER HILL		AVERAGE NUMBER OF HILLS PER ACRE	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
Southwest	36	39	8.5	9.0	11,879	12,314
Southcentral	66	81	7.8	8.6	12,754	12,655
Eastern	160	109	8.2	7.7	11,796	12,176
Seed Co.'s	34	45	8.4	8.3	12,595	10,983
STATE	296	274	8.2	8.2	12,129	12,132

**TABLE 4 - ALL POTATOES: QUANTITY LEFT IN FIELD AFTER HARVEST - 2000 & 2001 CROPS**

AREA	2000 CROP		2001 CROP	
	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT. PER ACRE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT. PER ACRE
Southwest	9	7	9	19
Southcentral	18	24	19	34
Eastern	37	26	31	26
Seed Co.'s	9	10	9	32
STATE	73	28	68	32